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ds, the balloon, Double Eagle II, passes high over southern England early today carrying Ben Abruzzo, and Larry Newman, making them the first ever to cross the Atlantic Ocean in

ent of Memphis Reported Near

rning during an inter- BC's Today show. ntatives of the two d marathon meetings nall hours of the mor- federal mediator Ed sitting in on some of Chandler said he was y at City Hall waiting f an agreement. r. the settlemen did ediately materialize. y because of an abor- ng between the mayor unidentified people nting police and

sey, vice president of 4 of the International on of Firefighters. firemen's union was se" to coming to terms mayor, but leaders of ce union were not ely available for com-

nions Wednesday a joint counter offer rtedly called for a one- ract providing a seven pay hike with no against the police and who have been on

had proposed a two- ract with a 6.6 percent roactive to July, $22.50 t April and a 7.5 per- hike in October 1979 kers rehired as new s with none of the hey have accrued. the mayor's plan, a ediator would choose the two offers after eturned to work. If the were chosen, police men would accept the but if the union plan ted by a mediator, city uld have to approve a increase by referen- ay for the difference he two.

schools. Officials decided to open school early this year to allow for sufficient "snow days," when the schools cannot operate because of weather.

The 60,000-member AFL-CIO Memphis Labor Council Wednesday night dopted a resolution threaening to call a city-wide general strike, shutting down private businesses as well as city services, if Chandler goes through with an earlier threat to withdraw city recognition of the fire and police unions.

Strike Spawns New NYC Paper

NEW YORK (UPI) — The first new paper born during this year's newspaper strike hit newsstands in New York today. Its name: City News.

The morning tabloid, with an ambitious press run of 400,000 copies, was the winner of a rush to give birth to a newspaper to slake reader thirst and make an interim buck.

Its top news story was the strike itself.

"Guv to Unions: It's Your Fault" said of 3.4 million copies daily. That was the circulation of three Manhattan dailies closed by a pressmen's strike that entered its second week amid predictions it will last until October.

The new papers will face a problem. They will be up against another paper that was born a year and a half ago, attained a circulation of 50,000 and then, with the strike called on Aug. 9, cranked its output up to 300,000 daily and says it has been selling out.

The new tabloids will sell for 25 cents. The established competitor. The News World, standard size, sells for 10 cents. It is published by News World Communications, Inc., whose funding comes from businesses oporated by members of the Rev. Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church.

Since the strike, The News World has expanded from 24 to 32 pages, its classified advertising is up almost 1,000 percent, and its phone has been ringing constantly with display ad orders.

Generally overlooked in New York newspaper strikes is the fact that there is a fourth general-circulation daily in the city, the Staten Island Advance, which is now serene in its 60th year of publication with a feeling of security — it has never been struck.

It has a circulation of 75,000 weekdays, 85,000 Sundays, in Richmond, one of the city's five boroughs. The Advance is the original paper of S.I. Newhouse, whose empire now includes 29 U.S. dailies, and he still calls this the flagship.

With City News now born, three other tabloids were aiming to open in a few days and stay for the duration of the strike or, by a miracle beyond and the fifth was delaying birth until convinced a long strike was a sure thing.

their helium-filled Double Eagle II along the historic route of Lindbergh to Le Bourget airport just outside Paris, where excited French authorities prepared a champagne reception for them. But shifting winds threatened to thwart their efforts.

The daredevil Amercans, who crossed over Ireland last night to become the first balloonists to conquer the Atlantic, were sighted over Le Havre, 100 miles northwest of Paris, at 4 p.m. (10 a.m. EDT).

As the balloonists floated past the English channel they were about two miles high. Their last reported speed was about 34 mph. But they were drifting mostly south toward the cathedral city of Chartres, 50 miles southwest of Paris.

Their progress was followed excitedly by their wives. As the Americans were flying over southern England earlier in the day their wives, flying from London to Paris to meet them, approached close enough to the balloon to blow kisses at them. But two other observers were less enthusiastic.

Major Christopher Davey and Donald Cameron, the Englishmen whose attempt failed about 100 miles off the coast of France last month, extended their reluctant but warm congratulations to the Americans.

Paris airport officials had said earlier said they expected the balloonists to land between 7 and 8 p.m. (1 and 2 p.m. EDT) at Le Bourget airport just outside Paris — the same spot where Lindbergh landed in his monoplane, the Spiit of St. Louis May 21 1927.

Two French Cabinet ministers, Transport Ministr Joel Le Theule and Youth Minister Jean-Pierre Soisson, prepared to be on hand to welcome the Americans with champagne.

The black-and-silver, 11-story high balloon was traveling at 31.4 miles per hour at an altitude of two miles when it reached the English channel.

The weather station in Brittany said it had contacted the balloon by radio and the Americans said they were heading for Paris.

Throughout the morning radio stations in France asked listeners to telephone when they spotted the balloon. A feeling of exhilaration spread as the

DALLAS (AP) — The Warren Commission's conclusions on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy here in 1963 were defended Wednesday night by one of the commission members — former President Gerald Ford.

"I still fully support the Warren Commission's conclusions. The basic conclusions were that Lee Harvey Oswald committed the assassination," Ford told reporters at a reception.

Fifteen years after the history-making gunshots rang out in Dealey Plaza, a House committee is trying to confirm a report on an often-repeated theory: that there was a conspiracy to kill Kennedy and that there was more than one gunman.

"I strongly believe in the single-gun theory," Ford said. "I very strongly disapprove of any variation from that."

Early Sunday morning, Dallas police are to seal off the area in front of the Texas School Book Depository Building, so that the House Assassinations Committee can record gunshots from Italian Army rifles similar to those allegedly used by Oswald. The sounds are to be compared with those taped at police headquarters when a motorcycle officer inadvertently left his radio microphone open as the bullets ripped into the motorcade.

The committee is said to have received a study of the tape by a Massachusetts acoustics company. The report is said to raise the possibility that there were more shots than Oswald could have fired.

Ford disagreed.

"The Commission had found no evidence of a conspiracy, foreign or domestic. Those conclusions are still valid, in my opinion, and I have seen no evidence developed by the House committee that would undercut the validity or credibility of those decisions," the ex-president said.

When asked whether he had been aware that a tape recording had been made during the shooting, Ford admitted, "that's a detail in all honesty I do not recall."

However, he added, "I can assure you that every bit of evidence the Commission had was either fully examined by the seven members of the Commission, of which I was one, or by our top staff people."

Ford was also asked about politics, but denied he is thinking about another presidential campaign. Ford said he had not made a decision on whether to be a candidate, although he said it would be a good race.

County Approves CETA Programs

EDINBURG — Hidalgo County Commissioners Court agreed [illegible] vocational training program [illegible] the total amount of almost $600,000 under Title I of the Comprehensive Employment Training Program (CETA).

The court also decided to advertise for bids on sponsorship of a Skill Training and Improvement Program (STIP).

Both STIP and CETA programs are funded by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL).

Contractors for the two CETA programs will be Pan American University and Project SER.

PAU will train 15 bookkeepers and 15 legal secretaries at a total cost of [illegible]. The training period [illegible] the 12 months.

SER will train a total of 76 persons in clerical and welding skills in a series of two six-month programs for each course. The project is budgeted at $296,686.

PAU and SER were selected for funding from a list of nine applicants.

Ramon Chapa, acting director of the Hidalgo County Department of Community Affairs, explained that only two projects could be funded since the available money amounts to only $600,000.

Other applicants were Amigos del Valle, $295,757, to

OVER CIVIL SERVICE ADVERTISEMENT

County Approves CETA Programs - Amigos Internacionales $295,611 Grant (Page 1 Start)

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